

with the capacity for labour. This fact, however, in no way detracts from the praise due to the zeal, the perseverance, the fidelity, and devotion, which he cherished and displayed. Many of mankind as richly endowed by nature have spent their lives, from want of right moral principle, in fitful and abortive efforts, or in vicious indolence. It is therefore to the high honour of Dr. C., and men of his class, that they were honest and faithful in using the mental treasures committed to their trust. But above all it is to the praise of the glory of God's grace, that these minds were formed and sanctified to noble and Christian ends. I hope the example thus set before me may stir and impel me to greater endeavours in the service of God."

Contrast with the above the following entry made a few days later:—"Read part of 1st vol. of Leigh Hunt's Autobiography, and finding it to be the egotistic and garrulous narration of an infidel old man, threw it by. What a contrast between such a life as that of Hunt, and the life of Chalmers! What a contrast between the men! It is melancholy to listen to the self-idolizing reminiscences of a hoary unbeliever,—to find old age unredeemed from the folly and vice of youth."

How strikingly characteristic are such entries (and they might be multiplied) of the exquisite taste, the delicate moral sensibilities of the christian, as well as of the reflection and critical acumen of the thoughtful student!

It may be imagined that one so addicted to study, would make but an indifferent Pastor; that the love of reading would steal away the time that ought to be devoted to visiting; and thus a neglected people would pay the penalty of a studious Minister. Nothing could be more contrary to the truth than such a supposition, as the people of his charge, and many other residents in Fredericton can fully testify. But the description of his pastoral qualifications must be deferred till another paper.

**TERMS OF THIS PAPER.**

10s. per annum in advance; 12s. 6d. if payment is deferred 3 months. Eight copies sent to one address for fourteen dollars.

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Nova Scotia Currency taken at par when—and only when paid strictly in advance.

**CHRISTIAN VISITOR.**

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1852.

At a Meeting of the Committee appointed by the Eastern New-Brunswick Baptist Association, to take charge of the "Christian Visitor," held at the house of Brother A. McL. Seely, on Saturday evening last, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted,—viz.:

Resolved, That this Committee tender the Editorship of the "Christian Visitor" to Brothers the Rev. I. E. Bill, and R. Thomson, as Associate Editors.

Extract from the Minutes.

J. F. MARSTERS, Secretary.

St. John, N. B., August 16, 1852.

Dear Brethren,—I am directed by the Committee of the "Christian Visitor" to forward to you the above extract from their Minutes, and shall be much gratified to lay before them your acceptance of the Editorial Chair, having the fullest confidence that it will be ably and judiciously filled.

I am yours, truly,

J. F. MARSTERS.

To the Revs I. E. Bill and R. Thomson.

REPLY.

St. John, August 18th, 1852.

To Mr. J. F. Marsters, Sec'y for the Committee appointed to take care of the "Christian Visitor":

Dear Brother,—We thank you for your communication, tendering us in the name of the Committee, the charge of the "Christian Visitor," as Joint Editors. We cheerfully accept this appointment, and beg you to thank the Brethren for the honor they have conferred upon us. We will endeavour to convince the DENOMINATION that the confidence of the COMMITTEE has not been misplaced. We request you to assist us by your prayers, that in this relation we may, as Ministers and Brethren, honor the Lord, and serve our generation according to His will. We hope, in advocating the cause of truth, we shall be well seconded by all the Ministers and Brethren, in

extending this religious paper throughout the length and breadth of the land.

We are, dear Brethren, yours truly, in the Lord,  
I. E. BILL,  
R. THOMSON.

We have alluded below to the interesting season for the Western New-Brunswick Baptist Association. Whilst all may reasonably look forward to the comforts of this delightful anniversary, some will naturally, and we would that all could, so regard the importance of its issues as to feel anxious and careful, and be moved by prayer, that God would wisely guide and mercifully bless all its deliberations and exercises. We feel this more deeply, perhaps, than some, and certainly more deeply than ever before, from the circumstances into which we have been brought by the distressing dispensation of Providence in the removal of the late respected, dearly beloved and able Editor of this paper, the very great and serious responsibilities it has imposed upon us, and the precious means which we have now to bear upon the thousands of souls in this Province. Those err most egregiously who fail to give due credit to the newspaper press, as an agent of the evils they would correct, or as an instrument of the good they would accomplish. The time has come when newspapers are almost universally read. This is a subject which occupies much attention at the present time, and we shall be excused this week in making a few observations upon it. The different Denominations are extensively acting on the acknowledged power of the press as an agency of disseminating their views, and of keeping their members united, harmonious and efficient.

An important consideration for parents and masters should be to have a paper constantly in the hands of their children and servants, that would inculcate the good old creed,—*"One Lord, one faith, one baptism."* This act would give them a direct clue to their religious views, and thus enable them to adapt their instructions to them, publicly or privately, with far more propriety than they could otherwise easily do. It would facilitate acquiring a knowledge of their views and feelings, by the ever topics of conversation it would suggest, and give hints as to the best method of meeting them. Again, the universal circulation of a religious newspaper, of a right stamp in the Churches, would tend to produce a homogeneity in the congregation and members, every way pleasant and desirable. If pastors do not keep an eye on this matter, they will soon find that different tastes, aided by foreign influences, will find indulgence, and yield to perversions which will array classes against each other, and soon draw them into difficulties which will be embarrassing, and may greatly impede their usefulness. There are always emissaries at hand to take advantage of a Pastor's remissness in filling up every chink where a tract, or book, or newspaper can be thrust in, and it will not be long before he will see and suffer from its interference. The only way to withhold it, is to be beforehand with his enemies, and fill up every nook of his pastoral ground with such kind of reading as he would like to meet and see the effects of, in his intercourse with his people. Such reading, we believe, is to be found in the religious paper which we are now called upon to edit, and which we shall labor to do in a way, neither to be moved from our post of duty by the fear of man, nor allured from it, by his approbation.

Whilst we are known as Baptists to the backbone, we shall endeavour to advocate Truth in all its bearings, and to open our columns to all that will further the ends of "Faith, Hope, and Charity;" nor will they be shut against any thing that is literary and scientific, if the writings are calculated to make our readers wiser and better.

We will conscientiously read, and courteously treat, every paper that is sent to us; but we shall feel ourselves quite at liberty to prune any communication, or to omit it, as our judgment may dictate.

The Agent for this paper asks—"When is this welcome 'Ministering Angel' to appear her new dress, and with her additional information?" We wish him to inform all our friends on whom he calls that we have made positive arrangements for this to take place in October, and we hope all unpaid accounts will be sent in forthwith, as these back debts press upon us like an incubus. We hope too that all our readers who express themselves satisfied will endeavour to gain each an additional subscriber. We assure them that energetic measures

are necessary at once, in order to carry out our plans, and determination to make this paper equal to any of the kind in print. We being resolved under God, to keep pace with the times—religiously and intellectually.

The meeting of our Western Association is drawing near. It will be held with the Baptist Church in Prince William, the first Saturday in September. These gatherings of the brethren are seasons of deep interest, 1st, Because they afford an opportunity for those, who believe in *one Lord, one faith, and one baptism*, to renew their christian acquaintance and brotherly love; and, 2dly, Because they give us the privilege of mutual consultation in reference to the means which are to be employed to extend the conquest of redeeming love. We would suggest to the Churches the importance of sending a good delegation of Pastors and laymen to represent their views and interests at the ensuing meeting; and let all come imbued with the spirit of believing prayer, that the Master of Assemblies may be in our midst.

We hope the collections for the several objects embraced in our Union Societies, are going forward successfully, and that the liberality of the Churches will bear some reasonable proportion to their obligations to the great Head and Lord of all; and to the magnitude of the interests committed to our care. "We are labourers together with God." How great the dignity—how solemn the responsibility! Let us meet then in the Lord's name, and in His Spirit to seek the union, the enlargement, and the happiness of that kingdom, which is not of this world.

We call special attention to the appeal of our esteemed brother Miles, on behalf of the "French Mission." This infant enterprise is doing a good work, and calls for the prayers and contributions of the faithful. It embraces a population of our country, which has long been neglected by us. It is our sin that we have not now amongst them many faithful Ministers, and flourishing Churches. If protestants had laboured as faithfully to instruct these votaries of the papacy, in the knowledge of the true Gospel, as the priesthood of a false religion, instead of seeing them surrounded with a cloud of impervious darkness we should see them walking as the children of the light; in place of the terrible bondage of the man of sin, there would be the glorious liberty of the sons of God. Brethren, there is no time to be lost in this matter—God calls to duty. "Let us work then while the day lasts."—In another part of our paper is an important letter upon the "FRENCH MISSION."

Last week we made some observations upon the brig *Australia*, and as some may soon leave for *California*, it may not be out of place to make a few observations upon that place, for it is astonishing to witness what is going on there. Already what fleets of ships, what hosts of men—what efforts—what suffering—what fortitude, what energy—what enterprise have been the fruits of California conquest! The Earth has never yet witnessed such movements of the human race, penetrating the deserts and spreading over the seas, and going forward, pointing out, as clearly as with the finger of God, that for ever onward and in all time there is no limit, within the bounds of the material creation to human thought and effort. We need not be surprised that our young men will take fire and burn with enthusiasm at what is before them. This enthusiasm achieves great results, it is a power in the scale for the very purpose of doing great things; in the mass it conquers every thing, it discovers worlds, and gives laws to them, and furnishes the means of life and happiness. But from what we read, and what letters we get direct from our friends there, we are obliged by truth to say, the evils and wretchedness felt there now is almost indescribable. What imagination can picture the anguish of soul and the suffering of the body; the wretchedness of the thousands who die by sea and land,—the forlorn and helpless agony of the abandoned upon the barren hill side and vast stretching wastes! The heart sickens at the picture—a picture so immense in extent and so infinite in every line and shade of human woe—a picture prominent in the boldest outlines, and rich with the products of the highest genius and power, but whose groundwork and background, and even the sky overhead, are full of unspeakable horrors.

We would warn then, our young christian friends to pause, and well think over the matter before they quit their native shores, where they are by diligence and good conduct sure

to gain a respectable living, to vegetate in this land of God—but nest of wickedness, misery and death. We blame them not in endeavouring to locate themselves where they think they will best secure their happiness; but we assure them that it is not all gold that glitters, and we would remind them of what the Lord of the Earth said—Matt. vi. 19, 21—and Paul's words—"Godliness with contentment is great gain." We would encourage young men to be slow to make haste in business, and believe that a fortune gained by hard labour and industrious habits is better enjoyed than one hastily acquired. In another part of our paper is an interesting article upon this subject, headed *Providence in the recent Gold discoveries.*

Dr. Maclay has sent us the following names which he has obtained in Nova Scotia, as life members to the "BIBLE UNION."  
Bridgetown:—Rev. Jarvis Ring, by the Church; William Morse, James Messenger.  
Wilmot:—Rev. Nathaniel Vidette, by the Church; Israel Longly, Daniel Nichols.

**Correspondence.**

**PRAYER.—CONTINUED.**

In the exercise of the duty of Prayer, believers often obtain a renewed sense of pardon communicated to the conscience. In drawing near to God he will draw near to us.—James iv. 8. See a fine example in the Prodigal son.—Luke xv. 20, 22. When the Lord calls backsliding Israel to return, he puts a penitential prayer into their mouth, and supports it with a gracious answer.—Hos. xiv. 1, 9. No sooner does he hear Ephraim bemoaning himself, than he comforts him with the most endearing expressions of paternal love.—Jer. xxxi. 18, 20. See also Psalms xxxii. 5, 6; 1st John i. 9. Let us then come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy. For this end, our Lord has taught us to pray daily, "Father, forgive us our debts."—Matt. vi. 12. In prayer, believers also obtain deliverance.—Ps. lx. 15; Ps. xxxiv. 17, 118, 5; Luke xviii. 1, 9; Heb. v. 7; Ps. 21, 2; 2d Cor. xii. 7, 10. Thus there may be, as in Paul's call, a happy relief in answer to prayer, whilst yet the outward affliction may continue for a time, by God's giving grace to help in time of trouble.

In prayer we often obtain a supply of all our wants.—Ps. xxxix. 10. When the soul has access to God, the fountain of all fullness; when he manifests himself unto them as their God, their portion, and their all, then every want of the soul is supplied; they delight themselves in God, and he gives them the desires of their heart.—Ps. xxxvii. 5. In Heaven we shall be free from all our present dispositions in God's service, and shall serve him without weariness day and night in his temple. Then we shall have no more the dead, the cold, and the wandering heart; weak faith, languid love, faint hope, and interrupted comfort, but shall be made like unto our Lord in holiness and happiness, and be made pillars in the temple of our God to go no more out. When the christian goes to heaven he does not go to a strange God, but to that God with whom he has had much familiarity and secret communion here below.

We have been speaking above of the blessings and advantages of secret prayer, and we would now add a few words upon family prayer.

"Some among you may perhaps tell me, that you cannot well manage to gather your families together of a morning. Be it so. It would not take up much time. After a few days' trial, you would probably find that you met together for prayer just as easily and naturally as for meals; and when you had spent a few minutes in prayer, and had called down God's blessing on your labor, how differently, with how much lighter heart, would you go forth to your labor, instead of going forth as you do now, with no other thought than that of the wearisome burden of the day!

You who are married, and have nothing but infant children, should do so along with your wives, for remember, so gracious is our Lord, his promise is, to be with those who are gathered together in his name, even if there are but two of them. You should pray to God along with your wives, to sanctify and bless your marriage, and to enable you to bring up your children in his faith and in his glory. You who have children old enough to understand what you say, should make them kneel down along with you, that they may be trained from their childhood to behold parents daily kneeling in the presence of the living God, and seeking the communion of his Son. Theo-